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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,862	12/14/2004	Kenji Hyodo	450100-05035	9013

7590 10/19/2007
William S Frommer
Frommer Lawrence & Haug
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EXAMINER

CHIO, TAT CHI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/19/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/517,862	Applicant(s) HYODO, KENJI	
	Examiner Tat Chi Chio	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/14/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amada et al. (US 6,339,676 B1).

Amada et al. teach a recording apparatus for recording video data and audio data corresponding to the video data onto a recording medium, comprising:

- data forming means for forming second video data which is data based on first video data and whose transmission rate is lower than that of said first video data (col. 13, lines 41-45), forming second audio data having a plurality of channels which is data based on first audio data having zero, one, or a plurality of channels corresponding to said first video data and whose transmission rate is lower than that of said first audio data (col. 13, lines 41-45, col. 4, lines 1-16), and outputting data of a low rate in which said second video data and said second audio data have been multiplexed (col. 4, lines 1-16);
- recording means for recording said first video data, said first audio data, and said low-rate data onto the recording medium (Fig. 1 and Fig. 7).

- wherein said data forming means sets said number of channels of said second audio data to a fixed value irrespective of said number of channels of said first audio data (col. 4, lines 1-16, the number of channels is set to two).

However, Amada et al. do not explicitly teach that the recording medium is a disc-shaped recording medium.

The examiner takes official notice that it is well known in the art to use a disc-shaped recording medium. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a disc-shaped recording medium since a disc-shaped recording medium is cheaper, and easier for storage.

3. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amada et al. (US 6,339,676 B1) in view of Kuroiwa et al. (US 6,788,881 B1).

Amada et al. teach a recording apparatus, wherein said data forming means forms audio data showing silence to the channels which do not correspond to the channels of said first audio data among said plurality of channels of said second audio data and outputs said low-rate data (col. 4, lines 1-16, if one of the input audio channels is missing, then the output of that channel also has no audio.)

However, Amada et al. do not explicitly teach said second video data and said second audio data including the channels of the audio data showing said silence have been multiplexed.

Kuroiwa et al. teach said second video data and said second audio data including the channels of the audio data showing said silence have been multiplexed (col. 6, lines 55-65 and Fig. 6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to apply the technique of including the channels of audio data showing said silence have been multiplexed to improve the recording apparatus to enable efficient data management.

Conclusion

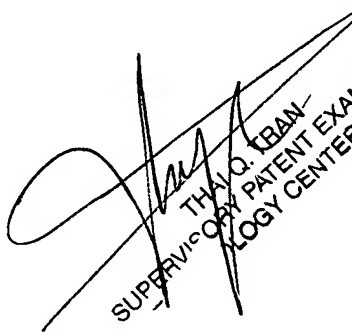
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tat Chi Chio whose telephone number is (571) 272-9563. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM-6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571)-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TCC


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